

Inquiry into Long-Term Sustainability of the Dairy Industry in New South Wales

Hearing: Wednesday, 3 February 2021

Questions Taken on Notice

Question 1 (Page 12 of transcript)

Mr HANSEN: Yes, definitely, and not just into the future. It is something that we have been doing for a while and it is something that we have put a particular focus on. I will go to Ms Lorimer-Ward in a minute to expand a bit more. A committee from the other House has been holding inquiries around drought and the Government's response and its impacts on drought. One of the things we have talked about there is that we have made a conscious decision this time around to actually go and collect the stories directly from the farmers themselves about things they did that worked and did not work, their learnings and their lessons.

We will document them and put them together so that future farmers coming into the next drought— because it is inevitable that there will be another one—do not have to relearn mistakes and can actually learn from successful examples elsewhere. That has been a really powerful piece for us and I am happy to make available to the Committee the number we have published. We do have a strong suite of business-skill-focused training programs. It is something that we have had a long history in helping build skills sets in the long term through our Tocal Agricultural Centre at Paterson, but it is something that we have put a particular focus on over these last five years. I might get Ms Lorimer-Ward to speak to a couple of those.

ANSWER:

'Preparing for Drought – What the Farmers Say' – aims to capture strategies for future drought planning. Part A is an overview of the strategies that have been successfully used by various enterprises. Part B is a series of case studies written after on-farm discussions with producers throughout NSW and south-east Queensland.

To date, 532 hard-copy publications and 4 eBooks have been purchased. The publication has been sold through the Tocal Bookshop (<https://www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/publications/farm-management/preparing-for-drought>).

The publication, including the case studies, are contained within **Attachment A**.

Question 2 (Page 15-16 of transcript)

The Hon. MICK VEITCH: Mr Chair, I think Mr Hansen indicated the department will provide a copy of those case study notes.

The Hon. WES FANG: That would be very interesting.

The CHAIR: If you could provide that as a question on notice, that would be great. I think there was also a copy of the role description of the dairy advocate. That would be fantastic as well.

Mr HANSEN: We will be able to find that for you and we will be able to provide that on notice.

ANSWER:

Please see **Attachment B** for the Dairy Advocate role description.